REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13 were previously pending in the present application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13 have been rejected.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 - Hals in view of Bollay

Also within the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Publication No. 2001/0029534 to Spinks et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Spinks") in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2004/0003058 to Trossen (hereinafter referred to as "Trossen") and further in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2002/0133555 to Hall et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Hall").

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claimed features must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, because neither Spinks, Trossen, nor Hall, either alone or in combination, disclose all of the limitations of Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13.

Specifically neither Spinks, Trossen, nor Hall teach or suggest a "system for controlling access to a printing environment comprising: a means for automatically registering identification information for the at least one printing device on the directory server without intervention by an administrator, wherein the identification information at least partially comprises availability information and configuration information; [and] a message processing means for processing the request and issuing a reply message to the at least one client device, wherein the reply message comprises all the configuration information necessary for the client device to configure the at least one printer to print files from the at least one client device without intervention by an administrator."

Indeed, these limitations are substantial because, as explained in the originally filed application:

> "When a user of a computer device on a computer network wishes to communicate with another computer device on the network, the user typically must consult a list containing information about available devices. For example, if a user of a networked office computer wants to send a print job to a networked printer, the user typically must first browse a directory containing a list of available printers, select one of the printers by name, network address, or other form of network identification, install a printer driver for the selected printer on the user's computer, and then issue a print command to the selected printer. The information in the list of available devices is typically compiled by a network administrator, who often must manually maintain the list, and frequently may organize the computer devices into one or more groups depending on user demand and availability of resources. For example, as printers are added to and removed from a network, or to and from groups within the network, the network administrator typically must manually update the information in the printer list [, and such] manual techniques for managing access to information about networked computer devices has become increasingly complex and burdensome as network devices have become more highly mobile, and wireless networking has become more abundant." Paragraphs [0004-0005].

However, neither Spinks, Trossen, nor Hall teach or suggest the solution to these issues, as claimed by the Applicants.

Within the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Spinks does not disclose a "registration and query processor transmitting query messages regarding the first network to [a] directory server." (Office Action, Page 3, Paragraph 7). Indeed, the Applicants agree. Furthermore, the Examiner alleges that transmitting query messages regarding a first network to a directory server is well known in the art. However, the Examiner does not offer any reference to the prior art that teaches or suggests messages that "comprises all the configuration information necessary for the client device to configure the at least one printer to print files from the at least one client device."

The Examiner further cites Trossen to allege that it discloses "transmitting query messages regarding a first network ... to a directory server." (Office Action, Page 4, Paragraph 8). However, Trossen does not teach or suggest a message processor with messages that "comprises all the configuration information necessary for the client device to configure the at least one printer to print files from the at least one client device." Trossen involves QUERY message(s) 50; however, the QUERY messages of Trossen are not sufficient to fully configure a printer without prior configuration.

For example, in some embodiments of Trossen, the QUERY message is transmitted in an RDF-based format. (Paragraph [0029]). However, known systems do not use RDF syntax for describing printer capabilities. In some other embodiments, Trossen uses SLP syntax for the QUERY message protocol. However, SLP syntax includes a public-key cryptography based security mechanism that requires a public keys of every service provider be installed on every printer, thereby rendering the goal of network peripheral device configuration without prior configuration.

Indeed, Trossen offers no other examples that are capable transmitting messages that includes of all the configuration information necessary for the client device to configure the at least one printer to print files from the at least one client device.
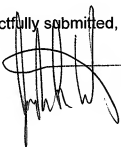
Finally, Hall does not teach or suggest "system for controlling access to a printing environment comprising: a means for automatically registering identification information for the at least one printing device on the directory server without intervention by an administrator, wherein the identification information at least partially comprises availability information and configuration information; [and] a message processing means for processing the request and issuing a reply message to the at least one client device, wherein the reply message comprises all the configuration information necessary for the client device to configure the at least one printer to print files from the at least one client device without intervention by an administrator," nor does the Examiner suggest that it does.

On the contrary, Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13 each include this limitation. For at least these reasons Claims 1, 3, 5-8, and 11-13 are allowable over a hypothetical combination of Spinks, Trossen, and Hall.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully posits that the pending claims have been distinguished from the art of record, and that all objections to and rejections of the claims have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance. Should the Examiner deem it helpful he is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at (650) 474-8400.

Respectfully submitted,

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